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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: POPULATION

Report of the Population Commission Acting as the Preparatory Committee for the 1994 International Meeting on Population

Addendum

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution entitled "International Conference on Population and Development"

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Population Commission Acting as the Preparatory Committee for the 1994 International Meeting on Population has recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "International Conference on Population and Development", which would have implications on the programme budget (see E/1991/47, para. 1).

2. At its first session, the Preparatory Committee had before it a report of the Secretary-General on the subject of preparations for the 1994 International Meeting on Population, which contained, inter alia, the preliminary estimates of the financial implications of the activities proposed by the Secretary-General in that respect (see E/1991/5, sect. V).

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3. Since the preparation of that report, a provisional amount of $1,432,300 has been included under section 13 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 (A/46/6) for the work to be undertaken in respect of preparation of the Conference. That provision relates to a number of activities as elaborated in that report.

II. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES PROPOSED IN THE DRAFT RESOLUTION AND THEIR ESTIMATED REQUIREMENTS AT FULL COST

4. Under the terms of operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution the Economic and Social Council would decide that the meeting should henceforth be called the International Conference on Population and Development.

5. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 4 and 6, the Council would authorize the Secretary-General of the Conference to convene six expert group meetings to address the six issues requiring the greatest attention, during the forthcoming decade, namely:

(a) Population growth, changes in demographic structure, including ageing of population, and the regional diversity of such changes, with particular emphasis on interaction between demographic variables and socio-economic development;

(b) Population policies and programmes, with emphasis on the mobilization of resources for developing countries, at the international and national levels by each country according to its capacity;

(c) The interrelationships between population, development, environment and related matters;

(d) Changes in the distribution of population, including socio-economic determinants of internal migration and the consequences for urban and rural development, as well as determinants and consequences of all types of international migration;

(e) Linkages between enhancing the role and socio-economic status of women and population dynamics, including adolescent motherhood, maternal and child health, education and employment, with particular reference to the access of women to resources and the provision of services;

(f) Family-planning programmes, health and family well-being.

6. By operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution, the Council would invite the regional commissions to convene as soon as possible meetings or conferences to review the experience gained in population policies and programmes in their regions, bearing in mind the relationship between such policies and programmes and development issues, and to propose future action, as part of their contribution to the preparatory activities for the Conference.

7. By operative paragraph 13 of the draft resolution, the Council would decide, in principle, that the second session of the Preparatory Committee should be held in August 1993, immediately following the rescheduled twenty-seventh session of the Population Commission.

8. By operative paragraph 14 of the draft resolution, the Council would decide, in principle, that a third session of the Preparatory Committee should be held early in 1994.

9. By operative paragraph 15 of the draft resolution, the Council would recommend that the General Assembly consider establishing a voluntary fund for the purpose of supporting the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in participating fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process and that it invite Governments to contribute to such a fund.

10. The activities proposed in the draft resolution would fall under programme 18 (Population) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (A/45/6/Rev.1). To the extent that those activities relate to the forthcoming biennium, they are also covered in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 under section 13 (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs) and other relevant sections. Those activities are detailed below.

Expert group meetings

11. As estimated in the report of the Secretary-General (E/1991/5), each expert group would be composed of 15 experts, would be of five days' duration and would be serviced in all official languages. On the assumption that the group meetings would be held in New York, the travel and per diem costs for experts would amount to $638,700. Those meetings would be attended by representatives of the regional commissions (one staff member from each commission). The relating travel costs would amount to $111,700. The conference-servicing requirements for the six meetings of expert groups would amount to $800,400. They are detailed in annex II.

12. It is noted from the report of the Preparatory Committee that some of the expert group meetings may be hosted by Member States (see E/1991/47, paras. 50-53). Should that be the case, it is understood that any additional meeting costs resulting from such change of the meeting venue, over and above those reported in paragraph 11 above, would, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 40/213, be borne by the host Governments.

Regional meetings

13. The regional meetings on issues of population in the context of the preparations for the Conference would be held in the biennium 1992-1993 at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). They would be of five days' duration each and serviced in the official languages of

each regional commission. Each meeting would be attended by three staff members from Headquarters. The relating travel costs would amount to $64,100. Conference-servicing requirements for the meetings would total $562,300. They are detailed in annex II.

Sessions of the Preparatory Committee

14. It is understood from paragraph 13 of the draft resolution that the second session of the Preparatory Committee, which is scheduled for 1993, would be combined with the rescheduled twenty-seventh session of the Population Commission, for which the necessary conference-servicing and other provisions have already been made in the context of the 1992-1993 proposed programme budget. On that basis the second session of the Preparatory Committee would have no financial implications with regard to travel costs for the Committee members and conference-servicing requirements, provided that the total number of days would not exceed the Commission's usual entitlement. One representative of each regional commission would attend the second session of the Preparatory Committee. The relating travel costs for that attendance would amount to $24,700.

15. The third session of the Preparatory Committee, to be held in 1994 as proposed in paragraph 14 of the draft resolution, represents an additional requirement, since it is outside the regularly scheduled session of the Population Commission to be held in 1995. It has been noted in that respect that by paragraph 3 of its resolution 1989/91, the Economic and Social Council decided to waive provision of rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure of the Functional Commissions of the Economic and Social Council as far as it related to the Population Commission serving as the Preparatory Committee of the Conference.

16. It is understood on that basis that entitlements for travel expenses should be extended to each member of the Population Commission serving as a member of the Preparatory Committee at its third session proposed for 1994. The relating costs would amount to $50,400. The proposal to the General Assembly to authorize that entitlement and for the related provision would be made in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

17. One representative of each regional commission would attend the third session of the Preparatory Committee. The cost of their travel to that session would amount to $25,200. Conference-servicing requirements for the third session of the Preparatory Committee would amount to $462,600.

Trust funds

18. With regard to operative paragraph 15 of the draft resolution, on the establishment of a trust fund for the purpose of supporting the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, in participating fully and effectively in the Conference and its preparatory process, the Secretary-General has recently established a Voluntary Fund for Supporting Developing Countries' Participation in the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development.

19. Moreover, in response to the request of the Council in its resolution 1989/91 that the Secretary-General take appropriate measures to obtain resources for the international meeting on population, a Trust Fund for the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development has also been established, in order to supplement regular budget funds for the purpose by extrabudgetary resources.

Conference

20. The cost estimates for the convening of the International Conference on Population and Development are based on the following assumptions:

(a) The Conference would meet for six days in New York;

(b) There would be a plenary and one main committee meeting simultaneously for a total of four meetings daily;

(c) The languages of the Conference would be Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. There would be 300 pages of pre-session, 200 pages of in-session and 100 pages of post-session documentation;

(d) The Conference would be attended by up to 12 experts of international calibre in the field of population sciences who would serve as "resource persons" of the Conference;

(e) One representative of each regional commission would participate in the Conference.

21. The travel and subsistence costs for 12 experts to attend the Conference would amount to $78,400. The travel and subsistence costs for attendance of representatives of regional commissions to the Conference would total $30,700. The conference-servicing requirements for the Conference on a full cost basis are estimated at $825,000.

22. It was noted from the report of the Preparatory Committee (see E/1991/47, paras.48-49) that the Conference may be hosted by one of the Member States. Should the General Assembly and the Council decide to accept the invitation of a host Government, it is understood that any additional costs over and above those reported in paragraph 21 above, resulting from that decision, would be borne by the host Government under the terms of General Assembly resolution 40/243.

Public information activities

23. Consistent with the established practice in respect of major United Nations conferences, public information activities for the Conference would comprise a number of activities, including a journalists encounter, issuance and dissemination of posters, brochures, a series of briefing papers and other activities. The costs of the information activities have been estimated at $400,000. They are detailed in annex I.

Other requirements

24. It should be recalled that, according to the provisions of Council resolution 1989/91, no separate secretariat for the Conference is envisaged. Instead, existing staff resources from the Secretariat (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs (approximately 100 Professional and 50 General Service work-months)) and from the secretariat of the United Nations Population Fund (approximately 100 Professional and 50 General Service work-months)) will be utilized through redeployment for the substantive preparations and organizational aspects of the Conference.

25. However, in addition to those staff resources to be devoted to the preparations for the Conference, temporary assistance would also be required for the period 1992 to 1994 for the coordination of the substantive preparations for the expert group meetings, including the organizational aspects, coordination and supervision of substantive preparations for the Conference itself, interagency coordination, liaison activities with Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and administrative services.

26. That temporary assistance has been estimated as being equivalent to 36 work-months of one D-1 post, 24 work-months of one P-5 post, 24 work-months of one P-4 post, 12 work-months of one P-3 post and 96 work-months of one General Service (Other levels) post. The total costs of that requirement for the period 1992 to 1994 amount to $1,316,800. The breakdown of that provision between the bienniums 1992-1993 and 1994-1995 and by source of funding appears in annex I.

27. Owing to the highly specialized, technical and interdisciplinary nature of the priority issues to be addressed by the expert groups at their meetings and by the Conference itself, as recommended by the Preparatory Committee, the services of consultants would be required to assist in the preparation of background papers for the six expert group meetings and for the major documents of the Conference. These requirements have been estimated at $200,000.

28. In the context of the preparations for the Conference, the staff of the Secretariat would undertake consultations with Governments, concerned organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations. The relating travel programme for the period 1992-1993 is estimated at $60,000.

29. The requirements estimated in paragraphs 11 to 28 above on a full-cost basis are recapitulated below as follows:

	1992-1993	1994	Total
	(United States dollars)		
Expert group meetings:			
(a) Conference-servicing requirements	800 400	-	800 400
(b) Other requirements	750 400	-	750 400
Regional meetings:			
(a) Conference-servicing requirements	562 300	-	562 300
(b) Other requirements	64 100	-	64 100
Sessions of the Preparatory Committee:			
(a) Conference-servicing requirements	-	462 600	462 600
(b) Other requirements	24 700	75 600	100 300
1994 International Conference:			
(a) Conference-servicing requirements	-	825 000	825 000
(b) Other requirements	1 151 500*	934 400	2 085 900
Total, including	3 353 400	2 297 600	5 651 000
(a) Conference-servicing requirements	1 362 700	1 287 600	2 650 300
(b) Other requirements	1 990 700	1 010 000	3 000 700

* This provision relates to temporary assistance, consultancy and travel requirements discussed in paragraphs 26 to 28 above.

Those estimates are detailed in annex I by type of requirement, source of funding and related time period.

III. PROPOSALS FOR ACCOMMODATING THE ESTIMATED REQUIREMENTS

30. As can be seen from the table in paragraph 29 above, the 1992-1993 requirements amount to $3,353,400. Of this amount, other requirements, which comprise costs of temporary assistance, consultancy, travel programme and public information programme, amount to $1,990,700.

31. Regarding the other requirements referred to in paragraph 30 above, it should be recalled that a provision totalling $1,432,300 has already been made under section 13 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 for the preparatory activities for the Conference, including provisions for temporary assistance, travel of experts and staff and consultancy. Thus, the 1992-1993 requirements over and above that provision amount to $558,400.

32. It is estimated that this balance ($558,400) could be accommodated from extrabudgetary resources, including those to be received from donors for the newly established Trust Fund for the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, discussed in paragraph 19 above. It should be noted in that respect that the appropriate steps are now being taken by the Secretariat for mobilizing extrabudgetary resources from the donor community for the preparation and holding of the Conference, as envisaged under Council resolution 1989/91.

33. With regard to the 1992-1993 conference-servicing requirements ($1,362,700) those cost estimates are based on the theoretical assumption that no part of the conference-servicing requirements would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity under section 32 (Conference services) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 and that additional resources would be required for temporary assistance for meetings. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity needs to be supplemented by resources for temporary assistance can only be determined in the light of the proposed calendar of conferences for 1992-1993. However, as indicated in paragraph 32.4 of the proposed programme budget, the 1992-1993 level of resources for temporary assistance for meetings was estimated on the basis of previous experience in order to accommodate not only meetings that are programmed, but also additional meetings. In other words, provision was made in the proposed programme budget not only for meetings known at the time of the budget preparation, but also for meetings that would be authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences in the biennium 1992-1993 were consistent with the pattern of meetings in past years. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional resources would be required under section 32 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 for conference-servicing of the preparatory process for the Conference during the forthcoming biennium.

34. As regards the estimated requirements for the year 1994 ($2,297,600), they would be considered and appropriate proposals would be made to the General Assembly in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995, including the possibility of utilizing the extrabudgetary resources that could be made available for the holding of the Conference.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

35. Should the Economic and Social Council adopt the draft resolution under consideration, no modification of the programme of work as proposed under section 13 of the 1992-1993 proposed programme budget would be required.

36. Should the Council adopt the draft resolution under consideration, additional requirements for the biennium 1992-1993 ($558,400) would be accommodated from within extrabudgetary resources, including those to be raised in the context of preparation of the Conference, as envisaged under Council resolution 1989/91.

Annex I

COST ESTIMATES FOR THE 1994 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT AND ITS PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1994 (AT FULL COST)
(in United States dollars)

	1992-1993		1994	Total
	RB	XB		
A. Temporary assistance requirements (para. 26)	472 300	434 200	410 300	1 316 800
B. Consultancy (para. 27)	75 800	124 200	-	200 000
C. Expert group meetings (travel and subsistence of 15 experts to each of 6 meetings) (para. 11)	638 700	-	-	638 700
D. Travel costs:				
1. Travel and subsistence costs for staff for participation in meetings related to the Conference, consultations with Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations (paras. 13 and 28)	109 100	-	15 000	124 100
2. Travel and subsistence costs for staff of regional commissions to participate in the conference-related activities (paras. 11, 14, 17 and 21)	136 400	-	55 900	192 300
3. Travel of Population Commission members to the third session of the Preparatory Committee (para. 16)	-	-	50 400	50 400
4. Travel and subsistence costs for 12 experts as "resource persons" for the Conference (para. 21)	-	-	78 400	78 400
E. Public information activities: (para. 23)				
1. Journalists encounter	-	-	130 000	130 000
2. Documentation	-	-	150 000	150 000
3. Series of briefing papers	-	-	60 000	60 000
4. Posters and information brochures	-	-	60 000	60 000
Subtotal (A to E)	1 432 300	558 400	1 010 000	3 000 700
F. Conference-servicing costs:				
1. Expert group meetings (para. 11)	800 400	-	-	800 400
2. Regional meetings (para. 13)	562 300	-	-	562 300
3. Third session of the Preparatory Committee (para. 17)	-	-	462 600	462 600
4. International Conference on Population and Development (para. 21)	-	-	825 000	825 000
Subtotal, F	1 362 700	-	1 287 600	2 650 300
Total	2 795 000	558 400	2 297 600	5 651 000

Annex II

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND CONFERENCE-SERVICING REQUIREMENTS IN RELATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

	Location	Date	Duration (working days of each meeting)	Number of pages			Languages	Daily meetings	Conference-servicing costs ($US)
				Pre-	In-session	Post-			
Six expert group meetings	New York	1992-1993	5	32	16	24	6	2	800 400
Population Commission acting as the Preparatory Committee for the Conference (second session)	New York	1993	5	150	100	32	6	2	- a/
Population Commission acting as the Preparatory Committee for the Conference (third session)	New York	1994	5	150	100	100	6	2	462 600
Regional meetings									
ECA	Addis Ababa	1993	5	32	32	24	3 (AEF)	2	111 100
ECE	Geneva	1993	5	32	32	24	3 (EFR)	2	106 100
ECLAC	Santiago	1993	5	32	32	24	3 (EFS)	2	98 500
ESCAP	Bangkok	1993	5	32	32	24	4 (CEFR)	2	135 500
ESCWA	Baghdad	1993	5	32	32	24	3 (AEF)	2	111 100
1994 Conference	New York	1994	6	300	200	100	6	4	825 000

a/ Programmed in the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for the twenty-seventh session of the Population Commission (see E/1991/L.25).